

Task 3.8 – Security Patch Implementation Plan

Task Overview

Currently, FSA has not created a baseline system architecture for all of its components. Without this baseline, tracking the latest software patches applied to FSA's system components is an overly difficult undertaking. To create a patch implementation plan we will first assist FSA staff who will create a baseline architecture for all of their system components. We will require significant FSA management support, as this effort will be labor intensive. Once we are confident that this effort will produce acceptable results, we will develop a patch implementation plan that will identify the latest software patches, disseminates notices to the proper FSA/contractor system personnel, and track each patch implementation.

Task Details

The following items have been identified as being the significant goals and events in accomplishing this task item.

Objective(s):

- Coordinate efforts and methods with FSA staff who will create baseline architecture.
- Find a solution/tool(s) for tracking and inventory.
- Develop plan for regular updating of software patches
- Develop plan tracking/inventory and compliance of patch implementation
- Ensure the plan is not overly burdensome and achieves its intended goals.

Milestone(s):

- Review (read) OCIO and FSA documentation on current methods and tools used or proposed for creating and tracking a baseline architecture.
- Meet with FSA personnel to understand what has been done.
- Written comments on possible methods and tools
- Selection of best methods and tool
- Write plan and procedure for updating software patches and for tracking compliance.
- Training

Modification 1, Period 2

BearingPoint has been formulating a strategy to implement an automated and centralized means of managing vulnerability assessment and remediation, beginning with security patch management. Achieving this goal has been illustrated as the fifth phase in a six-phase strategy. BearingPoint is working at phase 3.

BearingPoint has researched and evaluated several commercial tools and is in the process of determining their relevance and phased in application in a comprehensive solution. A strategic implementation plan and an overview of the architecture of the flow of roles and responsibilities in an automated patch management environment has been created.

BearingPoint has been evaluating and condensing all Federal, ED, and FSA regulations, policies, procedures, and guidelines pertinent to patch management, and is currently drafting a Security Patch Management Policy.

Task Status

For TO 120, this task was completed.

For Modification 1, this task is ongoing.